



DJ Vadim
The Soundcatcher
Barely Breaking Even

Now to you, Mr. Russian Percussionist, you must be smoking the best shit or eating right or doing lots of push-ups. The *feng shui* must be kicking in or some dope music fairy must be fluttering around your mystical aura because *The Soundcatcher* has got to be some of the best music I've heard so far this year. Put it this way, if Vadim (and One Self of course), Fat Freddy's Drop and the Stones Throw posse went on tour together I would quit this glamorous magazine writing biz in a second and head out to follow the tour just to cheer them all on. I would be the guy with the "Vadim Can Kick Your Honor Student's Ass" shirt on, selling bootleg Ninja Tune tees out in the parking lot. I would champion the sounds of this man, I would tell everyone about how much I keep playing "Them Say" over and over (mainly because it's too short) and how "Kill, Kill, Kill" just gets murdered by Big Red (and I have no idea what they're saying) and then it bleeds soul all over the scene with Katherin deBoer just stabbing me with her vocal chords.

You know what I hate about albums? They all sound the same. You know what I love about *The Soundcatcher*? Every track is its own self and everybody on it is absolutely on point delivering solid stuff at every turn. Vadim has the production down and having nothing to prove, he holds back and lets the songs tell the story. He doesn't have to brag, he doesn't have to boast, he just makes fine jammies like "Got To Rock" featuring Zion. I mean, is it not enough V that you combine soul, funk, hip-hop, dub, reggae, and beautiful flutes into such an amazing album, but you just had to go and make a classic party rocker that all us DJs will have to play over and over and over again. There's more that rocks on *Soundcatcher*, don't get me started, I could go on all day. Just get it. Don't wait, just go, or click or whatever you do. Just buy it and turn it up, loud. Respect maximum large Vadim and friends. You rocked the house again. *JW*



Dust Galaxy
Come Hear the Trumpets 12"
ESL Music

Here's the unedited version, which I like better.

I wanted to say something about this amazing record label, but I can see why they cut it out.

I spelled Feng Shui wrong because it was supposed to be funny, they must've thought I don't know how to spell it. Copy editors have no sense of humor.

I'll get to Vadim in a minute but first let's discuss Barely Breaking Even. This label puts out the best music and they should be rich by now. I'm expecting them to change their name to "Richer than Rich Folks Who Listen to Shitty Music" or something like that someday. And bravo BBE family for giving us this fine, fine release from good ol' Vad the inhaler.

Son you must be smoking the best shit or eating right or doing lots of pushups. The fung shway must be kicking in or some dope music fairy must be fluttering around your mystical aura because Soundcatcher has got to be some of the best music I've heard in at least a few weeks. Maybe more than that, maybe so far this year. Alright put it this way if Vadim (and One self of course) Fat Freddy's Drop and the Stones Throw posse went on tour together I would quit this glamorous magazine writing biz in a second and head out to follow the tour just to cheer them all on. I would be the guy with the "Vadim can kick your honor student's ass" shirt on, selling bootleg Ninja Tune tees out in the parking lot. I would champion the sounds of this man, I would tell everyone about how much I keep playing They Say over and over (mainly because it's too short) and how Kill, Kill, Kill just gets murdered by Big Red (and I have no idea what they're saying) and then it bleeds soul all over the scene with Katherin Deboer just stabbing me with her vocal chords. Well that might be over the top but music this good make me all crazy and I start to make plans, ya know?

Damn. You know what I hate about albums? They all sound the same. You know what I love about Soundcatcher? Every track is it's own self and

everybody on it is absolutely on point delivering solid stuff at every turn. Vadim has the production down and having nothing to prove, he holds back and lets the songs tell the story. He doesn't have to brag he doesn't have to boast he just makes fine jammies like Got To Rock ft. Zion. I mean, is it not enough V that you combine soul, funk, hip-hop, dub, reggae, and beautiful flutes into such an amazing album, but you just had to go and make a classic party rocker that all us djs will have to play over and over and over again. I've easily listened to this joint fifty times already and the album spent a week straight in my car. That never happens.

There's more that rocks on Soundcatcher, don't get me started, I could go on all day. Just get it. Don't wait, just go, or click or whatever you do. Just buy it and turn it up, loud. Respect maximum large Vadim and friends. You rocked the house again.



Love Trio
Love Trio in Dub featuring U-Roy
Nublu Records / 2005

The members of Love Trio obviously have skills. Besides musicianship, the ones that hit the mark on this project were their pulling-U-Roy-out-of-their-ass skills. It turns out that Trio bassist Jesse Murphy's mom knows someone in U-Roy's family and after a few phone calls they had his direct number in Kingston. Along with all that talent, skill and luck, they also have some *cojones* so they just call up U-Roy and ask him to fly to NYC for some studio work... and he says yes! Hot damn! So now, thanks to all these great skills and some bravado, we have this tasty album of slick modern dub mixed with jazz and even some house elements to enjoy. How does it sound? Fucking great would be my answer. Shit, I put it in my CD player and it stayed there for a week straight. That's some damn fine music, 'cause I get bored after a couple of listens. Favorite tracks for me are "Rock the Rhythm" with its anti-war, pro-love message; the house thump and playful sax of "Hard Livin'" are great in the car and in DJ sets; and the blood-red sound of "Goth Dub" really heats me up. Of course there are more than just a few good tracks but you must use your buying skills to go get the album. Then you can pick your own favorites. *JW*

I got some insider information from the editor about how the Love Trio guys got a hold of the legendary U-Roy. All that I could imagine writing about was how they pulled U-Roy out of their ass. Dumb, I know, but it seemed good at the time.